

CD 2013 -- 2/35



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF MUSIC

2012-13
season

Thursday, March 21, 2013
12:10 pm. Walter Hall

THURSDAYS AT NOON

Reflections on a Life in Music:
Victor Feldbrill in Conversation with Robin Elliott

Victor Feldbrill
2012-13 Wilma and Clifford Smith Visitor in Music

VICTOR FELDBRILL's career as a conductor spreads over a sixty year period. The Canadian conductor's first experience in this field started when he was fourteen years old while he was concertmaster of his high school orchestra. All of his basic studies he received in Canada after which he pursued other studies in Europe and with Pierre Monteux.

Feldbrill has conducted virtually every major orchestra in Canada as well as orchestras in Europe, Asia and the United States as a guest conductor. He has also been Music Director of the London (Canada) Symphony Orchestra, the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra and the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra. He was also Resident Conductor of the Toronto Symphony Orchestra and Chief Conductor of the Geidai Philharmonia in Japan.

In addition to symphony concerts Feldbrill has conducted for the Canadian Opera Company including premieres of important new operas. He has also conducted for Ballet, Radio, and Television.

His programmes have, whenever possible, included compositions by Canadian composers. As well, he has devoted much time to working with young orchestras and encouraging young soloists, many of whom have gone on to important careers. These efforts have won him many awards including Officer of the Order of Canada and the Order of Ontario. He is also the first recipient of The Canadian Music Citation given by The Canadian League of Composers and The Roy Thomson Hall Award. In the U.S. he received The American Concert Guild Award for his devotion to young performers. In Japan he was made Professor Emeritus at the Tokyo University of Fine Arts where he taught conducting for a period of eight years. Since 1993 Mr. Feldbrill has gone to the Czech Republic annually to teach and guest conduct.

Between 1968-82, Feldbrill headed the Orchestral and Conducting Departments at the University of Toronto as Conductor-in-Residence. His biography has been written by Walter Pitman, entitled *Victor Feldbrill: Canadian Conductor Extraordinaire* (Toronto: Dundurn Press, 2010).